

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 1 1. A method for performing transactions over the internet comprising the steps of:
 - 2 providing a host web site capable of routing web users from the host web site
 - 3 to other web sites;
 - 4 arranging with a cooperating vendor web site to accept payment from the
 - 5 host web site in return for the vendor web site's fulfillment of a
 - 6 customer purchase request made by a customer routed to the vendor
 - 7 web site via the host web site;
 - 8 providing software to be installed on the vendor web site to recognize when a
 - 9 customer has been routed to the vendor web site from the host web
 - 10 site;
 - 11 requesting and obtaining customer's payment information by the vendor web
 - 12 site after an affirmative act by the customer is made to make a
 - 13 purchase on the vendor's web site;
 - 14 transferring customer's payment information from the vendor web site to the
 - 15 host web site when the software on the vendor web site has
 - 16 determined that the customer has been routed to the vendor web site
 - 17 from the host web site;
 - 18 collecting the funds for the transaction by the host web site using the
 - 19 customer's payment information transferred in the preceding step;

20 requesting and obtaining additional information necessary to fulfill the
21 customer's purchase request by the vendor web site;
22 fulfilling the customer's purchase request by the vendor web site; and
23 transferring a percentage of the funds collected by the host web site to the
24 vendor web site upon completion of the preceding step

1 2. The method for performing transactions over the internet of claim 1 wherein the host
2 site can route web users to a plurality of vendor sites.

1 3. The method for performing transactions over the internet of claim 2 wherein the step
2 of fulfilling a customer's purchase request comprises the act of shipping a product to the customer.

1 4. The method for performing transactions over the internet of claim 1 further
2 comprising a step for storing information with respect to a plurality of transactions.

1 5. The method for performing transactions over the internet of claim 1 wherein the step
2 of recognizing recognize when a customer has been routed to the vendor web site from the host
3 web site comprises the recognition of a cookie placed on the customer's computer by the host web
4 site

1 6. The method for performing transactions over the internet of Claim 1 further
2 comprising the step of creating a modified URL of the vendor's web site to distinguish customer's
3 routed from the host web site from customers not routed from a host web site.

1 8. The method for performing transactions over the internet of Claim 2 further
2 comprising the step of generating a database of information collected from the vendor web sites.

1 9. The method for performing transactions over the internet of Claim 1 further
2 comprising the step tracking the status of each transaction, where the status can be obtained by
3 commands on the host web site.

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